

Appl. No.: 10/689,134  
Amdt. dated September 19, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of June 10, 2005

## REMARKS

Claims 1, 11, and 14 are amended. Claims 10, 12, 13, and 16 are canceled. Upon entry of the amendment, claims 1-9, 11, 14, 15, and 17-21 are pending in the present application.

### Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the elements of claim 10. Specifically, claim 1 is further directed to a particular shape of the seal outward surface and inner transition surface.

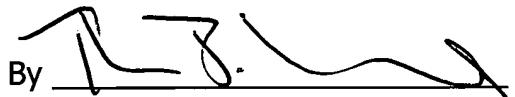
Claim 14 has been amended to incorporate the elements of claim 16. Specifically, claim 14 is further directed to a non-circular exhaust port and exhaust portion.

Applicant submits that the aforementioned amendments fully comply with the Examiner's conditions for allowance.

**For all the foregoing reasons**, favorable consideration of claims 1-9, 11, 14, 15, and 17-21 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID F. DZIOB et al

By   
Thomas J. Menard  
Registration No. 42,877  
Alix, Yale & Ristas, LLP  
Attorney for Applicant

Date: September 19, 2005  
750 Main Street  
Hartford, CT 06103-2721  
(860) 527-9211  
Our Ref: NEWDEZ/102/US  
TJM/RN/io